

## Message

**From:** Rowan, Anne [rowan.anne@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 10/7/2016 2:23:10 PM  
**To:** Kaplan, Robert [kaplan.robert@epa.gov]; Hyde, Tinka [hyde.tinka@epa.gov]; Henry, Timothy [henry.timothy@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Poy, Thomas [poy.thomas@epa.gov]; Kelley, Jeff [kelley.jeff@epa.gov]; Deamer, Eileen [deamer.eileen@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** MLive / Flint Journal with questions re: EPA / Legionella -deadline- NOON Eastern TODAY

Monica, just called and is trying to respond quickly to reporter Ron Fonger. The yellow highlight is his. I understand there is a timeline that we can provide. Please let me know if there's any info we can share quickly with Monica. Thanks!

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**From:** "Fonger, Ronald" <RFONGER1@mlive.com>  
**Date:** Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 3:52 P  
**To:** "Lee, Monica" <Lee.Monica@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** "cassell.peter@epa.gov" <cassell.peter@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** request for comment

Monica:

As you may know, the EPA recently (Oct. 4) released additional documents related to the Flint water crisis. I'd like some clarification on a few of the documents to further explain the EPA's involvement in the discussion of the Flint area's outbreak of Legionnaires' disease since early 2015.

Specifically, Jennifer Crooks from EPA includes a summary of a call held March 26, 2015, regarding Legionella in an email to Mike Prysby from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

The email says Darren Lytle, acting chief of the Treatment Technology Evaluation Branch at EPA-Cincinnati's Office of Research and Development, reported having collected sediment at the bottom of storage tanks for Homeland Security and finding high concentrations of Legionella. It's not clear from reading the summary whether that work was specific to storage tanks in Flint or a broader area. Could you clarify that?

Also, the same summary says Darren Lyle offered to conduct sampling and analysis for Legionella when it is needed and indicated labs were already set up and ready to perform that work, but Tom Poy said the state was "figuring out a communication-with-the-public plan" and that EPA should prepare to help after the state "goes public with the issue ..."

As you know, the Legionella issue was never made public by the state until Gov. Rick Snyder announced the possible connection of the outbreak to Flint water in January 2016 — more than eight months after the EPA meeting on the subject.

My question is whether EPA ever (and if so, when) provided the sampling and analysis for Legionella and why EPA never informed the public of what it knew about the outbreak.

Thanks for your help. I plan to file this story by noon Friday, Oct. 7, and would like to include your comments.

Thanks,

**Ron Fonger**

MLive Media Group

Reporter

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